Investments: What to know for 2024



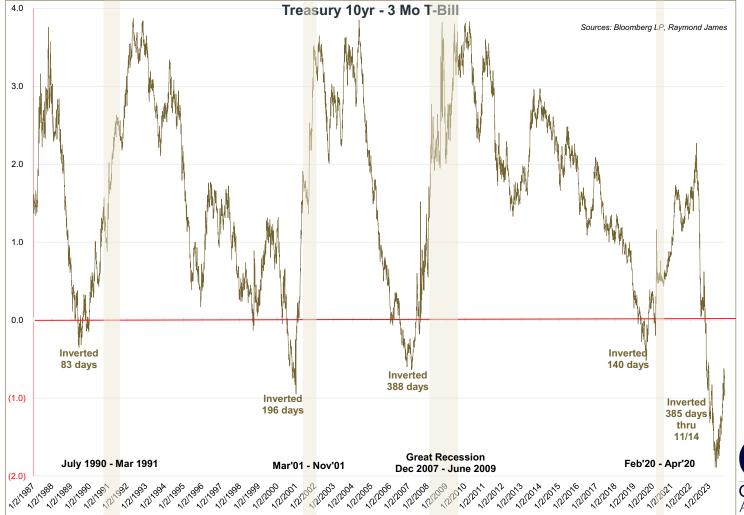
Our Panelists

Jon Azoff, Meeder **Doug Drabik**, Raymond James Tom Jalics, Fifth Third Bank Moderator: Mike Zuren, Lake County Treasurer



What is an inverted yield curve, and what is its correlation to a recession?





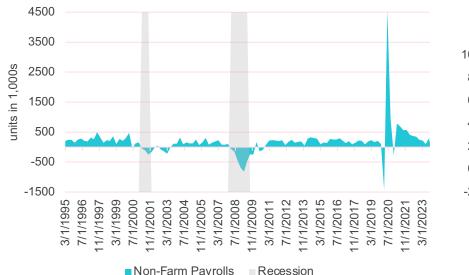
<u>10yr Treasury – 3mo T-Bill</u> Depth of Inversion vs Length of Inversion



What will cause the Fed to pivot and start lowering interest rates? What is the first sign of interest rates going down?

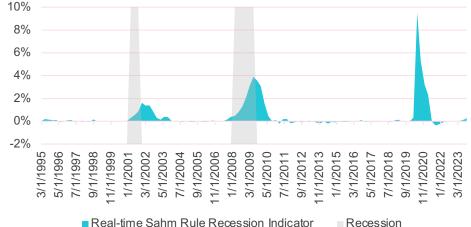


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Non-Farm Payrolls

Real-time Sahm Rule Recession Indicator, Percentage Points, Monthly, Seasonally Adjusted



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Classification: Internal Use

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG / FEDERAL RESERVE ECONOMIC DATA

How sticky is inflation? Or is inflation an ongoing issue?



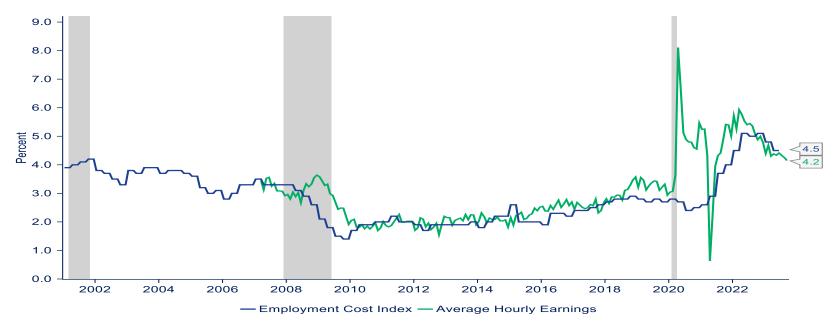
Revisiting the risk – core inflation sticky



Source: Macrobond, Bloomberg, as of 10/18/2023



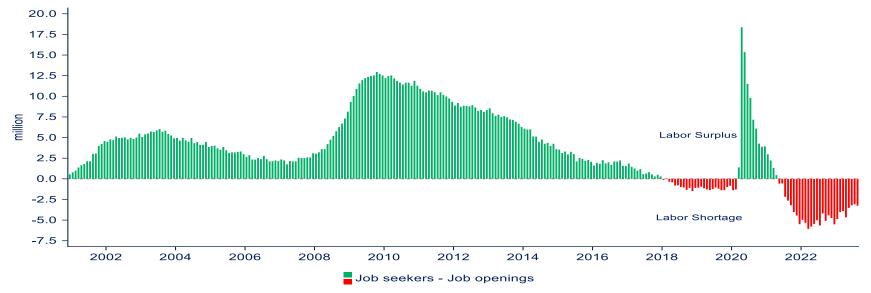
Wage and compensation costs too high



Source: Macrobond, Bloomberg BLS, as of 10/18/2023



Historic labor gap continues

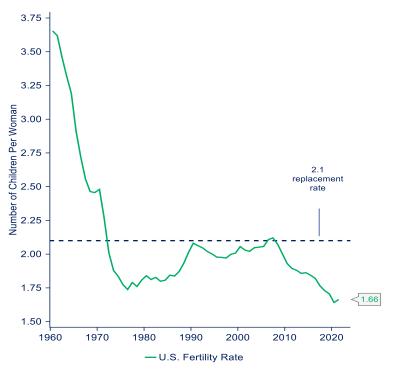


Source: Macrobond, BLS, as of 10/18/2023



Labor: the multi-decade challenge

Structural issues



Employers can help themselves

- Eliminate unnecessary barriers
- Flexibility for working parents
- Pathways for older workers
- Establish non-traditional talent pipelines



Source: Macrobond, World Bank, as of 10/18/2023

What are the effects of geopolitics on currencies, commodities and interest rates?



Geopolitical Risks

Israel attacked in a surprise and coordinated effort by Hamas

- Likely that Israeli government will escalate the conflict with a counteroffensive into Gaza.
- Press suggests that the attack is driven by an effort by Iran, which has ties to Hamas, to undermine diplomatic relations between Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Initial Economic and Market implications include:

- Near-term risk-off environment is likely = Higher oil prices, lower stock prices, lower bond yields, and a stronger U.S. dollar is the typical playbook during past conflicts.
- Higher prices in commodity complex may lead to stickier inflation, and higher for longer interest rates. Both are a negative for risk assets. This is a longer-term risk.
- Escalation into a full-blown conflict between Israel and Iran will lead to longer-term issues.
- Geopolitical shocks have historically been buying opportunities (see chart on next page).

Absent escalation, near-term market volatility will likely lead to a buying opportunity for risk assets in the not-too-distant future.



No commodity price spike post October 7...yet



Source: Macrobond, Bloomberg, as of 10/18/2023



Geopolitical Risks are typically short-term negatives

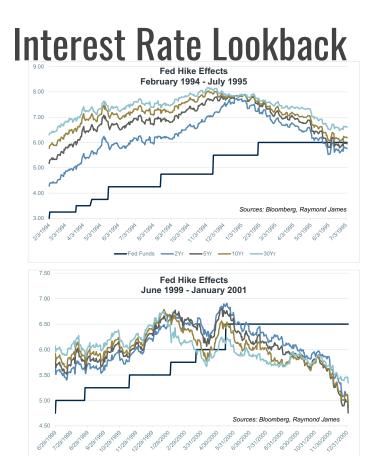
	6-Mo. S&P	1-Yr. S&P	2-Yr. S&P
Event & Date	500 Return	500 Return	500 Return
WWII Germany annexes Czechoslovakia: 3/39	3.6%	-4.3%	-20.5%
WWII Germany attacks France: 5/40	-6.3%	-22.0%	-34.0%
WWII Pearl Harbor: 12/41	-5.6%	4.3%	28.2%
North Korea invades South Korea: 6/50	10.0%	17.6%	35.8%
Suez Crisis: 10/56	-1.4%	-12.3%	10.3%
Berlin Wall Construction: 8/61	4.0%	-14.9%	4.5%
Cuban Missile Crisis: 10/62	20.6%	26.2%	48.1%
Kennedy Assassinated: 11/63	16.0%	23.5%	31.6%
Authorization of Military Ops in Vietnam: 8/64	6.2%	4.9%	2.3%
Six Day Israel Arab War: 6/67	7.7%	13.0%	16.2%
Israel Arab War/Oil Embargo: 10/73	-15.0%	-36.2%	-18.9%
Nixon Impeachment Proceedings: 2/74	-13.7%	-15.8%	6.6%
Shah of Iran exiled: 1/79	3.3%	11.7%	35.5%
Iranian Hostage Crisis: 11/79	4.5%	29.0%	22.5%
Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan: 12/79	6.9%	26.2%	13.8%
Invasion of Grenada: 10/83	-4.7%	-0.1%	12.6%
Libya Bombing: 4/86	0.5%	19.6%	9.3%
First Gulf War: 1/91	20.7%	32.3%	38.2%
Clinton Impeachment Proceedings: 12/98	12.2%	17.9%	8.5%
Kosovo Bombing: 3/99	0.7%	20.4%	-9.1%
9/11 Attack: 9/01	12.5%	-12.4%	-2.2%
Iraq War: 3/03	16.8%	25.1%	35.2%
Arab Spring (Egypt): 1/11	3.6%	2.7%	16.4%
Libya Intervention: 3/11	-7.3%	8.6%	19.3%
Ukraine Conflict: 3/14	7.8%	13.0%	9.7%
Syria Intervention: 9/14	5.5%	-2.6%	9.2%
Brexit Vote: 6/16	7.1%	15.4%	28.6%
Airstrike on Syrian Airbase: 4/17	8.0%	10.9%	22.9%
Russian Invasion of Ukraine: 2/22	-3.4%	-7.4%	?
% Positive	72.4%	65.5%	82.1%
Average	4.2%	6.7%	13.6%
Low	-15.0%	-36.2%	-34.0%
High	20.7%	32.3%	48.1%

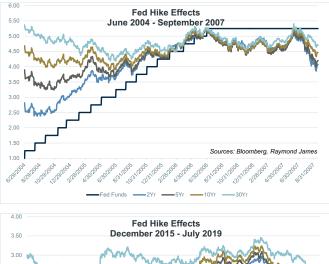


*Source: Bloomberg

What proactive strategies work in this environment and/or position investors well going forward?



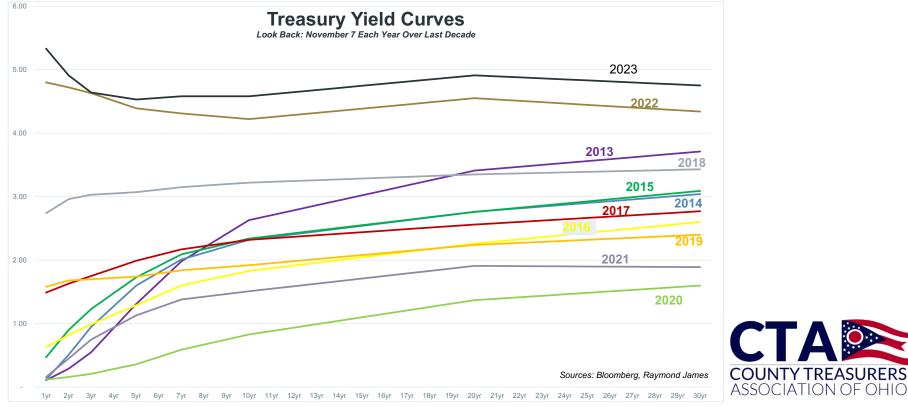








Interest Rate Lookback



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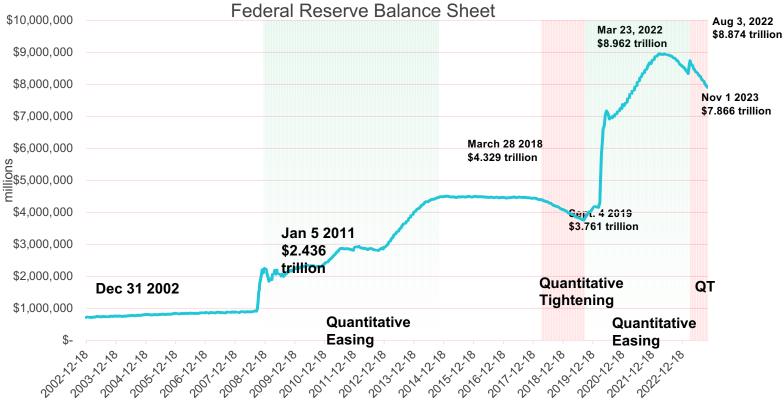


COUNTY TREASURERS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO

How does monetary policy affect longer-term interest rates?



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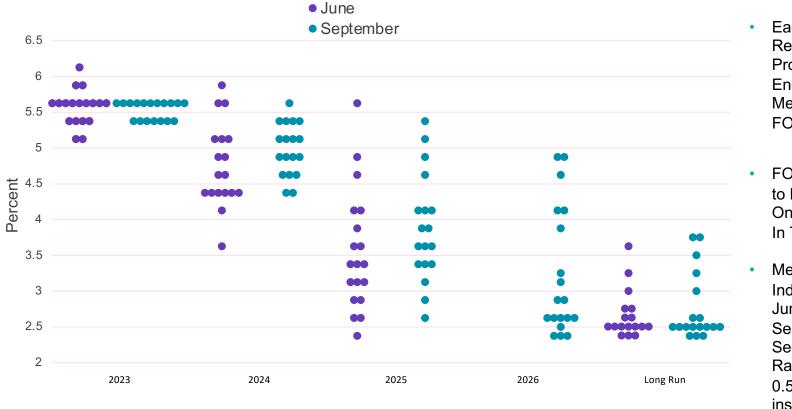


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Where are long-term interest rates likely to be in the next 3-5 years?



Federal Reserve Dot Plot Comparison



Each Dot Represents Projected Year End Rate By Each Member Of The FOMC

- FOMC Expecting to Raise Rates Only 1 More Time In This Cycle.
 - Median Dot Indicates From June to September FOMC See's Interest Rates Falling by 0.50% in 2024 instead of 1.00%.

SOURCE: FEDERAL RESERVE

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Questions?

